



### Amendment to the Claims

Kindly amend claims 1, 28, 51 and 52, as set forth below. In compliance with the Revised Amendment Format published in the Official Gazette on February 25, 2003, a complete listing of claims is provided herein. The changes in the amended claims are shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) and underlining (for added matter).

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1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing cluster configurations in a computing environment, said method comprising:

executing a distributed configuration component on a plurality of nodes of a cluster of said computing environment; and

providing configuration consistency of said cluster using the distributed configuration component, wherein said providing configuration consistency comprises performing a comparison between local data and global data.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said providing comprises comparing data in a local storage with data in a global storage to determine whether a node can join said cluster.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said providing configuration consistency comprises comparing data in a local storage with data in a global storage to determine whether one or more components of said cluster are to be initiated.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said providing configuration consistency comprises controlling, at least in part, one or more operations associated with said cluster.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define cluster operation used to create the cluster, and an undefine cluster operation used to erase a definition of the cluster.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify cluster operation used to modify one or more attributes of a definition of the cluster.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define node operation used to define a node to the cluster, and an undefine node operation used to erase a definition of a node of the cluster.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define registry server node operation used to define a particular node in the cluster as a registry server node, and an undefine registry server node operation used to remove a node definition as a registry server node.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify node operation used to change one or more attributes of a definition of a node of the cluster:

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online cluster operation used to initiate placing one or more nodes of the cluster online, and an offline cluster operation used to initiate placing one or more nodes of the cluster offline.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online node operation used to place a node of the cluster online, and an offline node operation used to place a node of the cluster offline.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online registry server operation used to initiate a system registry process on a node of the cluster, and an offline registry server operation used to stop a system registry process of a node of the cluster.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define subnetwork operation used to define a subnetwork of the cluster, and an undefine subnetwork operation used to delete a subnetwork definition from the cluster.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify subnetwork operation used to modify one or more attributes of a subnetwork definition.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define network operation used to create a network of the cluster, and an undefine network operation used to erase a network definition of the cluster.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify network operation used to modify one or more attributes of a network definition.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising commencing execution, via an operating system of the computing environment, the distributed configuration component.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining one or more data structures usable in providing configuration consistency.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein at least one data structure of said one or more data structures is stored in local storage and global storage.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said one or more data structures comprise a cluster data structure associated with said cluster.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said cluster data structure comprises a unique cluster identifier for the cluster.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said one or more data structures comprise at least one node definition data structure for at least one node of said plurality of nodes of said cluster.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said one or more data structures comprise a registry server nodes data structure identifying one or more registry server nodes of said cluster.

28. (Currently Amended) A system of managing cluster configurations of a computing environment, said system comprising:

a distributed configuration component executing on a plurality of nodes of a cluster of said computing environment; and

means for providing configuration consistency of said cluster using the distributed configuration component, wherein said means for providing configuration consistency comprises means for performing a comparison between local data and global data.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said means for providing comprises means for comparing data in a local storage with data in a global storage to determine whether a node can join said cluster.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said means for providing configuration consistency comprises means for comparing data in a local storage with data in a global storage to determine whether one or more components of said cluster are to be initiated.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said means for providing configuration consistency comprises means for controlling, at least in part, one or more operations associated with said cluster.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define cluster operation used to create the cluster, and an undefine cluster operation used to erase a definition of the cluster.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify cluster operation used to modify one or more attributes of a definition of the cluster.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define node operation used to define a node to the cluster, and an undefine node operation used to erase a definition of a node of the cluster.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define registry server node operation used to define a particular node in the cluster as a registry server node, and an undefine registry server node operation used to remove a node definition as a registry server node.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify node operation used to change one or more attributes of a definition of a node of the cluster.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online cluster operation used to initiate placing one or more nodes of the cluster online, and an offline cluster operation used to initiate placing one or more nodes of the cluster offline.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online node operation used to place a node of the cluster online, and an offline node operation used to place a node of the cluster offline.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online registry server operation used to initiate a system registry process on a node of the cluster, and an offline registry server operation used to stop a system registry process of a node of the cluster.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define subnetwork operation used to define a subnetwork of the cluster, and an undefine subnetwork operation used to delete a subnetwork definition from the cluster.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify subnetwork operation used to modify one or more attributes of a subnetwork definition.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define network operation used to create a network of the cluster, and an undefine network operation used to erase a network definition of the cluster.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify network operation used to modify one or more attributes of a network definition.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, further comprising an operating system of the computing environment to commence execution of the distributed configuration component.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, further comprising means for maintaining one or more data structures usable in providing configuration consistency.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 45, wherein at least one data structure of said one or more data structures is stored in local storage and global storage.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 45, wherein said one or more data structures comprise a cluster data structure associated with said cluster.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, wherein said cluster data structure comprises a unique cluster identifier for the cluster.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 45, wherein said one or more data structures comprise at least one node definition data structure for at least one node of said plurality of nodes of said cluster.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 45, wherein said one or more data structures comprise a registry server nodes data structure identifying one or more registry server nodes of said cluster.

51. (Currently Amended) A system of managing cluster configurations of a computing environment, said system comprising:

a plurality of nodes of a cluster of said computing environment; and

a distributed configuration component of the cluster to execute on the plurality of nodes and to provide configuration consistency of said cluster, wherein the providing of configuration consistency comprises performing a comparison between local data and global data.

52. (Currently Amended) At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of managing cluster configurations of a computing environment, said method comprising:

executing a distributed configuration component on a plurality of nodes of a cluster of said computing environment; and

providing configuration consistency of said cluster using the distributed configuration component, wherein said providing configuration consistency comprises performing a comparison between local data and global data.

53. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 52, wherein said providing comprises comparing data in a local storage with data in a global storage to determine whether a node can join said cluster.

54. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 52, wherein said providing configuration consistency comprises comparing data in a local storage with data in a global storage to determine whether one or more components of said cluster are to be initiated.

55. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 52, wherein said providing configuration consistency comprises controlling, at least in part, one or more operations associated with said cluster.

56. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define cluster operation used to create the cluster, and an undefine cluster operation used to erase a definition of the cluster.

57. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify cluster operation used to modify one or more attributes of a definition of the cluster.

58. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define node operation used to define a node to the cluster, and an undefine node operation used to erase a definition of a node of the cluster.

59. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define registry server node operation used to define a particular node in the cluster as a registry server node, and an undefine registry server node operation used to remove a node definition as a registry server node.

60. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify node operation used to change one or more attributes of a definition of a node of the cluster.

61. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online cluster operation used to

initiate placing one or more nodes of the cluster online, and an offline cluster operation used to initiate placing one or more nodes of the cluster offline.

62. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online node operation used to place a node of the cluster online, and an offline node operation used to place a node of the cluster offline.

63. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of an online registry server operation used to initiate a system registry process on a node of the cluster, and an offline registry server operation used to stop a system registry process of a node of the cluster.

64. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define subnetwork operation used to define a subnetwork of the cluster, and an undefine subnetwork operation used to delete a subnetwork definition from the cluster.

65. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify subnetwork operation used to modify one or more attributes of a subnetwork definition.

66. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise at least one of a define network operation used to create a network of the cluster, and an undefine network operation used to erase a network definition of the cluster.

67. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein said one or more operations comprise a modify network operation used to modify one or more attributes of a network definition.

68. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 52, wherein said method further comprises commencing execution, via an operating system of the computing environment, the distributed configuration component.

69. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 52, wherein said method further comprises maintaining one or more data structures usable in providing configuration consistency.

70. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 69, wherein at least one data structure of said one or more data structures is stored in local storage and global storage.

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71. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 69, wherein said one or more data structures comprise a cluster data structure associated with said cluster.

end  
72. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 71, wherein said cluster data structure comprises a unique cluster identifier for the cluster.

73. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 69, wherein said one or more data structures comprise at least one node definition data structure for at least one node of said plurality of nodes of said cluster.

74. (Previously Presented) The at least one program storage device of claim 69, wherein said one or more data structures comprise a registry server nodes data structure identifying one or more registry server nodes of said cluster.